



BISHOP AUCKLAND

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF

HEALTH

FOR

1972

BISHOP AUCKLAND URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Chairman of Health Committee :
COUNCILLOR T. ROBSON.

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J. R. PASSEY, LL.B., L.A.M.T.P.I.

Health Department Staff

Medical Officer of Health—

ELAINE M. OSBORNE, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., D.C.H., D.R.C.O.G., M.F.C.M.
Also Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District Council of
Shildon, the Rural District Council of Darlington, and Principal
Senior Medical Officer for Durham County Council.

Chief Public Health Inspector—

R. SNOWDON, D.P.A. (LOND.), D.M.A., M.INST.P.C., M.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.,
DIP. (HONS.) R.I.P.H.H., DIP. S.A.A.
Qualified Public Health Inspector, Meat and Other Foods Inspector,
Smoke Inspector and Shops Act Inspector.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector—

R. BARRASS, T.D., M.A.P.H.I., DIP. R.I.P.H.H.
Qualified Public Health Inspector and Meat and Other Foods
Inspector.

District Public Health Inspectors—

P. J. NAYLOR,
Qualified Public Health Inspector and Meat and Other Foods
Inspector.
E. YOUNG,
Qualified Public Health Inspector, Meat and Other Foods Inspector
and Smoke Inspector.
J. K. SCURR, from 10.1.72,
Qualified Public Health Inspector and Meat and Other Foods
Inspector.
D. S. PRATT, from 1.7.72,
Qualified Public Health Inspector and Meat and Other Foods
Inspector.

Student Public Health Inspector—

Miss DENISE THOMPSON from 3.1.72.

Technical Assistant—

G. W. WALL, from 23.10.72.

Office—

G. B. RICHARDSON, *Clerk.*
Miss BARBARA MOORE, *Clerk*, from 1.11.72.
Miss VERA THOMPSON, *Shorthand Typist.*

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1972

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of your district for 1972.

The birth rate was 15·5 compared with 15·4 in 1971 and was above the national rate of 14·8.

The death rate increased from 13·8 to 14·1, 119 of these being in the 65-74 age group and 190 were 75 and over.

The number of cancer deaths fell from 90 to 70. This included 20 cases of carcinoma of the lung (16 men and 4 women) an increase of 3 on last year. Cancer of the intestine fell from 15 to 8 and cases of leukaemia from 5 to 2.

Deaths from ischaemic heart disease rose in men from 58 to 71 but fell in females from 54 to 50.

Unfortunately deaths from motor vehicle accidents went up to 9 from 2 while other accidental deaths were down from 6 to 4. Two of these were in women 75 and over.

The infantile mortality rate of 17 was the same as the country as a whole being represented by 8 deaths (5 male, 3 female). 3 babies died in the first week of life, 1 of congenital abnormalities, 1 of respiratory distress, 1 of pneumonia. Of the remainder dying later in the first year, 3 had congenital abnormalities, 1 died of inhalation of vomit and one of "sudden death in infancy" syndrome.

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

Notifications of new cases of tuberculosis increased by one to 9 this year. 1,156 children were protected against tuberculosis by B.C.G. vaccination following Heaf testing during the first year in Secondary school.

Notifications of infectious diseases (excluding tuberculosis and food poisoning) increased to 115 from 89 this year. This was due to a mild outbreak of scarlet fever in the Coundon area, some cases of dysentery in young children in the town area and an increase in the number of cases of measles. It was pleasing to note that only one case of whooping cough was notified this year compared with 66 last year.

The 2 mild cases of Salmonella food poisoning were in one family—father and son, and there were no secondary cases.

Routine influenza vaccination of all staff and workmen was carried out in the autumn 117 doses being given.

The Mea's-on-Wheels Service was extended during the year and now supplies 48 meals to old people twice a week. In spite of the present extension we still have a waiting list of 12.

A Books-on-Wheels service was started by the W.R.V.S. during the year supplying 14 old people with 6 books each fortnight in the Bishop Auckland area.

The Red Cross runs the "Meals from Neighbours" service for us in the villages where Meals-on-Wheels are not supplied and also in the town area when urgent cases arise. 370 meals were cooked by helpful neighbours this year compared with 1,056 last year.

The Red Cross also run an over-70 Tea Club catering for 48 persons once a week with a waiting list of 48.

During the year 590 treatments were given in the town chiropody clinic which is run by the Red Cross and a voluntary chiropodist. 352 treatments were given in the St. Helen clinic staffed by a County chiropodist and run by the wardens of the bungalow schemes there.

We are very grateful to the voluntary organisations without whose assistance we could not run these schemes.

Our own domiciliary chiropody service continues to run to capacity. During the year 9 pensioners who are house bound received treatment every 8 weeks, 3 of them being over 90. There are still 5 cases on the waiting list.

Christmas parcels were again distributed by the Old People's Welfare Committee assisted by various local voluntary organisations. They also carried out regular visiting throughout the year.

During the year 437 people received the services of a home help, a decrease of 29 from last year.

288 new houses were built by the Council, 97 by private enterprise, 1 house was converted into flats and 8 houses and 1 flat were converted from other premises making a total of 394 compared with 277 in 1971.

The number of swimmers in the baths rose to 196,057 this year (183,884 in 1971). Repeated sampling of the water showed no contamination.

In giving my report I should like to thank the Council for all their help and my staff for their efficient hard work during the year.

Area and Social Conditions

The area of the district is 9,336 acres. The estimated population in mid-1972 was 33,120 a decrease of 200 on the previous year's estimate.

The rateable value at the end of 1972 was £1,237,538 and the product of a penny rate was £11,240.

The number of houses according to the Council's rate book was, at the end of 1972, 11,833 plus 59 public houses.

Vital Statistics.

In the following extracts from the vital statistics of the district, the corrected figures as supplied by the Registrar General have been used and the rates quoted are based on the above mentioned estimated population.

Live Births	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate ...	427	222	205
Illegitimate ...	56	31	25
TOTAL ...	483	253	230

Comparability Factors—Births	...	...	...	1.06
Deaths	...	...	...	1.05
Standard Birth Rate for the District	...	...	...	15.5
Standard Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	14.8

Births.

The total number of live and still births was:
490; 257 Males; 233 Females.
Illegitimate live births total 58; 32 Males; 26 Females.
Illegitimate live births as a percentage of total live births=
12 per cent. England and Wales 9 per cent.

Still Births.

Still Births	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate ...	5	3	2
Illegitimate ...	2	1	1
TOTAL ...	7	4	3

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ... 14
Rate for England and Wales ... 12
Total live and still births 490; 257 Males; 233 Females.
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year) 8; 5 Males; 3 Females.

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ...	17
For England and Wales per 1,000 total live births	17
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	19
For England and Wales per 1,000 legitimate live births	17
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil
For England and Wales per 1,000 illegitimate live births	21

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.

Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births	10
England and Wales	12

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.

Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	6
England and Wales	10

Perinatal Mortality Rate.

Still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 live and still births	20
England and Wales	22

Deaths.

After correction for outwardly and inwardly transferable deaths a total of 445 (241 males and 204 females) deaths of residents was recorded during the year, giving a standard death rate of 14·1 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The death rate for England and Wales as a whole in 1972 was 12·1.

The following table gives the number of deaths recorded from the various causes during the year.

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	—	1
Late Effects of Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	2	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	3	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	5	3	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	16	4	20
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ...	—	5	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ...	—	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	3	—	3
Leukaemia	1	1	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms ...	13	9	22
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	—	1	1
Diabetes Mellitus	1	5	6
Anaemias	2	1	3
Multiple Sclerosis	1	2	2
Other Diseases of Nervous System	1	2	3
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease ...	2	3	5
Hypertensive Disease	3	3	6
Ischaemic Heart Disease	71	50	121
Other Forms of Heart Disease ...	7	4	11
Cerebrovascular Disease	43	44	87
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	9	18	27
Influenza	4	1	5
Pneumonia	12	15	27
Bronchitis and Emphysema	19	4	23
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	4	6
Peptic Ulcer	2	—	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	—	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	2	—	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	4	5
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	—	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	—	1	1
Congenital Abnormalities	3	4	7
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc. ...	1	—	1
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	1	3	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents	7	2	9
All other Accidents	1	3	4
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries ...	2	—	2
TOTAL ...	241	204	445

The table on Causes of Death is based upon information supplied by the Registrar General.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases notified (excluding tuberculosis) during 1972.

Disease				Total cases notified	Total number after corrected diagnosis	Cases admitted to hospital	Total deaths
Infective Jaundice	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	22	22	—	—
Smallpox	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	67	67	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1	1	—	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	...	...	24	24	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	1	1	—	—
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	2	2	—	—
TOTAL				117	117	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows in arrangement by age groups the number of new cases notified and of deaths from tuberculosis occurring in the district during the year.

Age Periods	New cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2- 4 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5- 9 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-14 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-19 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-24 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-34 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-44 years	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
45-54 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-64 years	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65-74 years	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
75 and over	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1972 ...	5	2	2	—	1	—	—	—
1971 ...	5	2	1	—	—	1	—	—
1970 ...	8	4	2	1	1	1	—	1
1969 ...	8	3	—	—	—	1	—	—
1968 ...	11	8	1	—	—	1	1	—
1967 ...	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
1966 ...	9	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
1965 ...	8	3	—	3	1	1	—	1
1964 ...	7	4	—	2	2	—	1	—
1963 ...	7	7	—	2	—	—	—	—
1962 ...	9	6	1	—	4	—	1	—

WATER

The Durham County Water Board took 25 samples of water during the year for bacteriological examination, all were satisfactory. The Board supplies 12,109 houses directly from the mains, the average number of persons per house being 2·76, no house being supplied from a standpipe. No case of contamination occurred in the district and the supply was satisfactory in quantity, and quality was maintained. So far as is known, no houses are without a piped water supply.

Chlorination is carried out after all mains repairs and bacteriological tests are made until a satisfactory result is obtained.

Only natural fluoride is present in the water and varies from 0·10 p.p.m. to 0·65 p.p.m.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Sewage treatment has generally been satisfactory and the final effluent normally within the river authority standard. Filter pressed sewage sludge is now being composted and ground prior to sale as an Organic Fertilizer.

SEWERAGE

The sewerage system continues to work satisfactorily.

SPECIAL HEALTH SERVICES

1. PREVENTIVE SERVICES.

The following children were immunised during the year in their homes, doctors' surgeries, County clinics or schools.

(a) Diphtheria.

587 children received primary full courses either singly or in combination.

384 children received "booster" doses either singly or in combination.

(b) Whooping Cough.

505 children received primary full courses in combination.

30 children received "booster" doses in combination.

(c) Tetanus.

664 children received primary full courses either singly or in combination.

427 children received "booster" doses either singly or in combination.

(d) Smallpox

27 primary vaccinations and 4 re-vaccinations were carried out during the year.

(e) Poliomyelitis.

598 primary courses were given during the year.

433 "booster" doses were given.

(f) Measles.

462 children were vaccinated.

(g) Rubella.

217 girls were vaccinated at 11 and 12 years of age.

(h) B.C.G.

The following figures apply to children attending schools in the Bishop Auckland Urban District.

1,312 children were Heaf tested.

81 children were positive.

1,128 children were negative.

1,156 children were vaccinated who were either negative or one degree positive.

Fourteen children were not vaccinated for the following reasons : —

4 Rashes.

3 Eczema.

3 Psoriasis.

3 had recently had another injection.

1 was ill.

2. HOME HELP SERVICE.

Number of cases receiving Home Help at 1.1.72	333
New cases served during the year	104
Total number of cases provided with help during the year	437
Cases terminated during the year	130
Cases receiving the service at 31.12.72	307

3. CHIROPODY.

(a) Bishop Auckland Clinic.

Number of persons attending	132
Total Number of treatments	590
Each patient receives 1 free treatment every 8 weeks.	

(b) St. Helen's (The Square) Clinic.

Number of sessions	49
Number of persons attending	56
Number of treatments	352

MEAT INSPECTION

During the year the carcasses and organs of 1,227 animals were inspected in the course of 129 visits to the only remaining slaughterhouse.

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number slaughtered ...	192	19	1	406	609
Number inspected ...	192	19	1	406	609
1. TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	1
Parts of carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	6
Percentage condemned	—	—	—	—	0·98
2. CYSTICERCOSIS					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Parts of carcasses condemned ...	2	—	—	—	—
Percentage condemned	1·04	—	—	—	—
Number of carcasses refrigerated ...	1	—	—	—	—
3. OTHER DISEASES					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Parts of carcasses condemned ...	9	1	—	2	11
Percentage condemned	4·68	5·26	—	0·5	1·8

MEAT INSPECTION REGULATIONS, 1963

All slaughtered animals were examined in the manner prescribed by the regulations, and the carcasses of those found to be fit for human consumption were stamped by the inspecting officer.

The charges imposed brought an income of £82·57.

The income from meat inspection since the Regulations came into force is £4,027·57.

ICE CREAM

During the year thirty-six samples were taken and graded for purity. The gradings are shown in comparison with previous years.

	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	Total
Grade 1	24	10	13	12	8	8	14	16	15	18	23	161
Grade 2	8	6	9	7	3	3	12	12	4	11	8	83
Grade 3	4	1	2	4	1	—	6	15	8	5	4	50
Grade 4	8	3	2	3	2	2	18	26	9	3	1	77
Totals	44	20	26	26	14	13	50	69	36	37	36	371

MILK (Special Designation) REGULATIONS, 1960

Milk samples are taken by the County Public Health Inspector, and the results for the Urban District in 1972 were:

Designation	Number Examined	Tests Applied	Test Results		
			Passed	Void	Failed
Pasteurised	123	Methylene Blue Phosphate	112	2	9
		tase	121	—	—
Sterilised	16	Turbidity	16	—	—
Untreated	18	Methylene Blue	17	—	1
		Biological	6	—	—
		Anti-Biotic	18	—	—

FOOD PREMISES

One hundred and sixty-nine visits were made to food premises and it was necessary to serve 11 notices to remedy defects and/or supply amenities.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

At 31st December, 1972, the total number of premises registered was 272 all of which had received a General Inspection.

(a) Registration and Inspections.

Class of Premises	No. of Premises Registered during the year	Total No. of Registered Premises at end of year	No. of Registered Premises receiving a General Inspection during the year	No. of Notices Served
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Offices	3	83	29	—
Retail Shops ...	6	158	62	3
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses ...	—	10	—	—
Catering Establishments, open to the public, Canteens	—	20	26	—
Fuel Storage Depots	—	1	—	—
TOTALS ...	9	272	117	3

(b) Persons Employed.

Class of Workplace (1)	Number of Persons Employed (2)
Offices	739
Shops	1520
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	79
Catering Establishments open to the public, Canteens	121
Fuel Storage Depots	5
TOTAL ...	2464
Total Males 885; Total Females 1,579	

FACTORIES

1. INSPECTIONS AND DEFECTS for purposes of provisions as to Health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspec- tions (3)	Number of Defects (4)	Number Remedied (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	137	11	7	7
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	4	4	—	—
TOTAL ...	143	17	7	7

HOUSING

(a) Clearance Areas

Three Clearance Areas were reported to the Council for subsequent transmission to the Department of the Environment. These areas were:—

Clearance Areas	Number of Houses
1. Lockey's Yard, West Auckland, No. 24 ...	7
2. Primrose Hill, Etherley Dene, No. 2 ...	17
3. Gomer Terrace, Bishop Auckland, No. 30 ...	14
TOTAL ...	38

(b) Individual Orders.

Housing Act Orders were made in respect of :

Houses	Order Made
Rose Cottage, Etherley Moor	Demolition
38 Woodside, Witton Park	Closing
8 Albion Terrace, Witton Park	Closing
13 High Escomb, Escomb	Closing
3 Wear Chare, Bishop Auckland	Closing
11b West Bridge Street, Bishop Auckland ...	Closing
13 West Bridge Street, Bishop Auckland ...	Closing
1 Primrose Hill, Etherley Dene	Closing
11 Primrose Hill, Etherley Dene	Closing
12 High Escomb, Escomb	Closing
4 West Bridge Street, Bishop Auckland ...	Closing
64 Etherley Lane, Bishop Auckland	Closing
5 Frederick Street, Bishop Auckland	Closing
66 Bridge Street, Bishop Auckland	Closing
2 Wear Chare, Bishop Auckland	Closing
24 High Escomb, Escomb	Closing
40 Woodside, Witton Park	Closing
3 Low Station Houses, Auckland Park ...	Closing
53 Wesley Street, Coundon Grange	Closing
87 Woodside, Witton Park	Closing
11 High Escomb, Escomb	Closing
44 Etherley Lane, Bishop Auckland	Closing
2 Primrose Hill, Etherley Dene	Closing
19 South Church Road, Bishop Auckland ...	Closing
2 Low Edward Street, Bishop Auckland ...	Closing
10 Great Gates, Bishop Auckland	Closing
33 North Bondgate, Bishop Auckland	Demolition
34 North Bondgate, Bishop Auckland	Demolition
8 Southgate Street, Bishop Auckland	Demolition

A TOTAL OF 29 HOUSES

(c) Houses where defects were remedied under Public Health Acts

1. After informal action	...	...	...	4
2. After formal action	...	...	...	27

(d) Qualification Certificates.

(1) Where dwelling claimed to satisfy conditions:				
Applications received	...	...	...	13
Applications refused	...	...	...	2
Applications approved	...	...	...	6
(2) Where improvements are proposed:				
Applications received	...	...	...	5
Applications provisionally approved			...	5
Applications approved	...	...	...	—

(e) Inspections.

(i) Under Public Health and Housing Acts	...	1,625
(ii) Under Acts relating to Improvement Grants		2,725

(f) Houses Demolished.

In Clearance Areas	...	...	...	...	304
Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	9

(g) Improvement of Houses.

					Discretionary Grant	Standard Grant
(i) Number of applications received in 1971	...	...	...	...	184	36
(ii) Number of applications received in 1972	...	...	...	...	565	6
(iii) Number of applications refused in 1972	...	...	...	...	5	—
(iv) Number of applications approved in 1972	...	...	...	...	471	—
(v) Total number of grants paid since inception	...	...	...	...	687	491

(h) New Houses.

	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Built by Council	40	245	332	146	201	116	117	173	288
Built by Private Enterprise ...	123	22	61	99	64	149	97	93	97
Built by Durham County Council...	—	—	1	—	4	4	—	—	—
Converted into Flats ...	—	—	1	4 to 8 Flats	2 to 4 Flats	1	—	—	1
Converted from other premises ...	—	1	—	1	1	4	2	10 houses & 1 Flat	8
TOTALS ...	163	268	395	250	272	274	216	277	394

(i) Rehousing — Housing Allocations.

	New Dwellings	Re-lets of Existing Accommodation	Total
Slum Clearance ...	133	48	181
General List ...	107	89	196
Aged Persons List...	33	13	46
Keyworkers ...	8	4	12
Transferred Sitting Tenants ...	16	65	81
TOTALS ...	297	219	516

(ii) Overcrowded Families.

Of the 516 families rehoused during the year, 107 were statutorily overcrowded.

(iii) Families suffering from Tuberculosis.

No cases rehoused in 1972.

(j) House Waiting Lists.

As at 31st December, 1972.

Category of Applicant	Tenants	Sub-Tenants	Total
General Waiting List ...	448	133	581
Aged Persons Waiting List ...	366	10	376
TOTALS ...	814	143	957

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH SUMMARY

Visits made by Public Health Inspectors

Particulars	Number of Visits
Factories Act	13
Public Health Acts	551
Housing Acts	442
Grants—Improvements	2,725
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	171
Drainage	69
Public Cleansing	95
Food Premises	169
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	151
Slaughterhouses	129
Clean Air Act	14
Civic Amenities Act	283
Animals Act	—
TOTAL ...	4,812

Number of Interviews and Meetings—496.

CONVERSIONS TO WATER CARRIAGE SYSTEM

There were no conversions of ash closets to water carriage in 1972. At the end of the year—the numbers of the various sanitary conveniences in the Urban District were as follows:

Water Closets	...	...	...	...	13,723
Ash Closets	...	...	...	...	114

Since 1954, 2,131 conversions have been carried out.

CONVERSIONS

Year	Owners	Local Authority	Total
1962	40	161	201
1963	16	79	95
1964	20	—	20
1965	6	—	6
1966	2	30	32
1967	5	—	5
1968	1	—	1
1969	2	—	2
1970	4	—	4
1971	—	—	—
1972	—	—	—
TOTALS	96	270	366

RODENT CONTROL

	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of Properties in District	11,464	68
2. (a) Total Number of properties inspected following notification	399	12
(b) Number infested by—		
(i) Rats	223	12
(ii) Mice	54	—
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	33	—
(b) Number infested by—		
(i) Rats	22	—
(ii) Mice	—	—

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT ON PUBLIC CLEANSING

In 1967 the Report of the Working Party on Refuse Storage and Collection was published. A similar Report, but on Refuse Disposal, was produced in 1971. Both contained many recommendations for improving the public cleansing service, and controlling the activities of indiscriminate dumpers. An attempt at the latter produced the Civic Amenities Act of 1968.

In 1972 a stage further was reached by the enactment of the Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act. This Act has two main features. First, it makes it an offence punishable by heavy penalties to deposit on land any poisonous, noxious or polluting waste in circumstances in which it can give rise to an environmental hazard—that is circumstances in which it might cause danger to persons or animals or might pollute any water supply. Secondly, the Act introduced a notification procedure under which those concerned are required to give local authorities and river authorities information about the nature and quantities of certain wastes arising or being deposited in their Areas.

The picture should be completed when further impending legislation rationalises definitions, procedures and practices in this field of local government work.

House and Trade Refuse Collections.

The policy of extending the sack system of refuse storage and collection continued again at the rate of 500 to existing Council houses, and a unit to each new Council house.

A Pilot Scheme using polythene tubs with plastic sack liners was successful. This will be extended and will provide a service equally effective as the paper sack system and yet costing only 60% of the existing system.

By the end of 1972 there were 2,920 sack holders in use.

The number of Ash Closets continues to diminish—albeit slowly as the reduction now is almost entirely due to the demolition of old unfit houses. The 1971 figure was reduced by 17 to 114.

Thus by 31st December this Department was collecting weekly refuse from 11,585 dustbins; removing 2,920 sacks from domestic premises; and cleansing 114 ash closets.

Again, this is only part of the collection picture as at least 14% of domestic dwellings use two or more dustbins; and almost 90% have additional refuse to collect, usually placed in cardboard boxes.

The collections from Trade Premises and Commercial concerns increase each year, and vary from weekly to daily visits.

The old style uneconomic side loading vehicles are still being replaced with rear loading compaction vehicles. A "Revopak" was acquired in 1972. This is a machine capable of crushing pianos, beds, refrigerators etc., and is regarded as the most advanced vehicle in the field of refuse collection. A further rear loader was ordered but delivery will be in 1973.

Civic Amenities Act.

The demands placed upon the Department by the free collection of bulky house refuse increase.

The number of special collections in 1972 rose to more than 1,250. This is a 650% increase on 1968 when the Civic Amenities Act came into operation.

These collections range from picking up a mattress, settee or piano; removing large quantities of rubble or garden refuse; to emptying the contents of a house, increasing also is the number of abandoned cars removed and disposed of by the Department.

Since 1968 192 cars have been dealt with.

Salvage.

Despite a high sickness rate in this section the recovery, baling and sale of waste paper and fibreboard continued.

In 1972, 82 tons 16 cwts. 2 qtrs. of fibreboard and 16 tons 19 cwts. of mixed papers, a total of 99 tons 15 cwts. 2 qtrs, were despatched to Board Mills.

Paper Tonnage Despatched 1962—1972

				Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.
1962	...	...	...	159	17	0
1963	...	...	...	196	19	3
1964	...	...	...	181	18	3
1965	...	...	...	140	16	1
1966	...	...	...	99	9	1
1967	...	...	...	84	2	2
1968	...	...	...	70	5	2
1969	...	...	...	49	10	0
1970	...	...	...	61	4	1
1971	...	...	...	119	5	1
1972	...	...	...	99	15	2

Income

(a) Waste Paper and Fibreboard	...	...	...	£1,125·77
(b) Trade Refuse	...	...	...	£2,355·20
(c) Disposal Charges	...	...	...	£224·50
TOTAL				£3,705·47

Income 1962—1972

Year	Paper Sales £ p	Trade Refuse £ p	Total £ p
1962 ...	1,359·39	1,034·45	2,393·84
1963 ...	1,575·36	1,156·40	2,731·76
1964 ...	1,455·87	1,258·99	2,714·86
1965 ...	1,326·36	1,179·03	2,505·39
1966 ...	929·25	785·16	1,714·41
1967 ...	799·55	758·43	1,557·98
1968 ...	623·96	859·53	1,483·49
1969 ...	494·57	1,164·83	1,659·40
1970 ...	706·31	1,720·30	2,426·61
1971 ...	1,460·80	1,918·20	3,379·00
1972 ...	1,125·77	2,355·20	3,480·97
TOTALS	11,857·19	14,190·52	26,047·71

Staff.

The following table shows days lost due to sickness, absenteeism, and holidays in 1972.

Month	Sickness	Absent	Holidays	Total
January ...	30	6	4	40
February ...	84	4	6	94
March ...	83	2	12	97
April ...	42	2	26	70
May ...	25	7½	37	69½
June ...	38	4	78	120
July ...	21	1	45	67
August ...	48	1	101	150
September ...	43	1	71	115
October ...	19	11½	59	89½
November ...	45	5	15	65
December ...	32	11	16	59
TOTALS ...	510	56	470	1,036

Time lost during 1972 due to sickness and absenteeism was 566 days.

The following table compares time lost due to sickness in 1972 with the previous 10 years.

Month	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Jan. ...	35	16	52½	67	73	64	99	52½	145	95½	30
Feb. ...	109	25	99	73	81	39½	67	51	86	83	84
Mar. ...	54	31	59	91	82	39	70½	35	66	65	83
Apr. ...	60	13	74	84	28	99	68	74½	61½	48½	42
May ...	88	1	63½	60	27	121½	76	70	36	90	25
June ...	41	5	55½	100	—	77	34½	51	48½	89	38
July ...	37	13	30	48	—	36	37	40½	53	92	21
Aug. ...	27	10	30	48	25	51	30	64½	30	11	48
Sept. ...	22	20	70¾	55	32	46	5½	19¾	56	13	43
Oct. ...	45	35	67	39	—	51	46	33	56½	6	19
Nov. ...	11	20	66	24	26	108	44	5½	37	25	45
Dec. ...	3	1	67¾	30	24	31	19	38½	11½	29	32
Totals	532	190	734¾	719	398	763	596½	535¾	686¾	647	510

APPENDIX

Comparisons in Vital Statistics during the years 1963-72.

Vital Statistics		1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Birth Rate	...	18.9	19.2	19.7	17.6	17.9	16.9	16.6	15.7	15.4	15.5
Death Rate	...	14.4	14.1	13.7	14.0	13.6	13.8	13.4	12.5	13.8	14.1
Infant Mortality Rate	...	24.8	35.2	36.8	33.8	26.1	17.2	16.0	6.0	22.0	17.0

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases Notified		1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Pulmonary Cases	...	14	11	11	11	10	19	11	12	7	7
Non-Pulmonary Cases	...	2	2	3	—	—	1	—	3	1	2

INFECTIOUS DISEASES — Notifications and Deaths

(excluding Tuberculosis and Food Poisoning)

N = Notifications.

D = Deaths.

	1963		1964		1965		1966		1967		1968		1969		1970		1971		1972	
	N	D	N	D	N	D	N	D	N	D	N	D	N	D	N	D	N	D	N	D
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	9	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	24	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	4	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	664	—	371	—	765	—	61	—	657	—	82	—	434	—	263	—	12	—	67	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	5	—	39	—	24	—	14	—	20	—	10	—	28	—	15	—	8	—	22	—
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	97	—	40	—	72	—	46	—	34	—	9	—	18	—	55	—	66	—	1	—
Acute Encephalitis ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
* Infective Jaundice ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	8	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	778	—	454	—	865	—	124	1	715	—	112	—	481	—	343	1	89	—	115	—

* Notifiable from 4th October, 1968.

SUMMARY OF DEATHS BY SEX AND AGE GROUPS—1972

Total All Causes ...	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	Age in years									
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over	
					—	—	3	4	2	20	55	66	86	
	M	241	4	1	—	—	3	4	2	20 <td>55</td> <td>66</td> <td>86</td>	55	66	86	
	F	204	1	2	2	—	—	3	3	14	22	53	104	

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